

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 10, 2005

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005–06 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 707

Introduced by Assembly Member Hancock

February 17, 2005

An act to add Section 49605 to the Education Code, relating to pupil counseling.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 707, as amended, Hancock. Pupil counseling: academic and career exploration plan.

Existing law authorizes the governing board of any school district to provide a comprehensive educational counseling program for all pupils enrolled in the schools of the district.

This bill would authorize a school district to provide a pupil with an academic and career exploration plan prior to the completion of grade 9. The bill would require the plan to include a sequence consisting of academic courses that satisfy state and school district requirements and standards for entry into postsecondary education, *as specified*, a sequence consisting of courses or career exploration activities that provide an awareness of career opportunities or training for entry into the work world following graduation from high school, and participation in certain specified academies and programs that focus on career exploration or career and technical education, or both.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 49605 is added to the Education Code, to read:

49605. (a) (1) The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(A) All pupils enrolled in a secondary education program should achieve the mastery of high-level skills and knowledge in order to become productive members of society.

(B) All pupils should have opportunities to explore various career interests and obtain career and technical training prior to graduation from high school in order to make informed decisions regarding future education and entry into the work world.

(C) School districts throughout the state should take additional steps to ensure that all pupils and their parents or guardians receive adequate assistance and guidance to achieve these goals.

(2) It is the intent of the Legislature that all school districts maintaining a secondary education program assist entering high school pupils and their parents or guardians develop an academic and career exploration plan.

(b) A school district may provide an individualized academic and career exploration plan for pupils prior to completion of grade 9. The plan shall be developed by the pupil, the parent or guardian of the pupil, and a school counselor possessing a valid credential with a specialization in pupil personnel services who is assigned specific times to directly counsel pupils, and shall be reviewed annually thereafter. The review of the plan shall include a consideration of the pupil's academic and career exploration or vocational educational progress, and any desired changes for the following school year. The plan shall include all of the following:

(1) A sequence consisting of academic courses that satisfy state and school district requirements, and standards for entry into postsecondary education, *including entry to the California State University and the University of California.*

(2) A sequence consisting of courses or career exploration activities designed to provide an awareness of career opportunities, or training for entry into the work world subsequent to graduation from high school, or both.

1 (3) Participation in small learning communities, academies,
2 partnership academies, career and technical training programs,
3 work experience programs, and other programs that focus on
4 career exploration or career and technical education, or both.
5 This training shall be described by the plan and may satisfy
6 paragraph (2).

O